



## Letters of Pliny

[PLINY THE YOUNGER \(61 - ca. 112\)](#), translated by [William MELMOTH \(1710 - 1799\)](#)

The largest surviving body of Pliny's work is his *Epistulae* (Letters), a series of personal missives directed to his friends, associates and the Emperor Trajan. These letters are a unique testimony of Roman administrative history and everyday life in the 1st century CE. Especially noteworthy among the letters are two in which he describes the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in August 79, during which his uncle Pliny the Elder died (65 and 66 in this edition), and one in which he asks the Emperor for instructions regarding official policy concerning Christians (Trajan Letter 97). Other letters include a ghost story, a story about a dolphin, descriptions of Pliny's villa, and Pliny's opinions on legacy-hunting, the treatment of slaves and the decline in respect for orators. - Summary by Wikipedia revised by Andrew Coleman

**Read by Andrew Coleman. Total running time: 10:36:57**

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